

# PRESIDENT TALKS TO PEACE LEAGUE

## Urges Common Force to Preserve Rights of the Weaker Nations.

## SPEECH BELIEVED FEELER FOR A MEDIATION OFFER

**Chief Executive Weighs His Words  
and Leading Men of Nation Com-  
mend His Utterances.**

Prediction that the time is near when the nations will have a common force to maintain international justice and safeguard the rights of weaker nations against selfish aggression and in protection of inviolable rights of peoples and mankind was expressed by President Wilson at the banquet of the League to En-

force Peace last night.

Suggestions for future peace in the making of the terms of which he said he hoped the United States will become a partner were also stated. These, coming at a time when the capitals of the world are agog with suggestions of peace overtures and the intimation that President Wilson may be a mediator for the termination of the titanic war in Europe, and after the President had given most careful preparation to his speech, are interpreted by many as a "feeler" to discover how the belligerents would receive peace overtures.

the national life; men of every shade of political feeling, leading churchmen and practically every member of the cabinet, presidents of the largest universities, men whose names are known to every student of business and enterprise. It was the largest dinner ever held in Washington for some time. And it was the first time that the President, endorsing the program of the League to Enforce Peace, which was drafted by the League's executive committee, President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University.

Enthusiasm was a feature of the banquet. Every utterance regarding the duties of nations toward each other, their interdependence and new spiriting of the world, was greeted with a shout, "with the shrinking of the globe," and each prayer for an early peace and

banquet. Every utterance regarding the duties of nations toward each other and their interdependence and new spirit of internationalism that has come "with the shrinking of the globe, each prayer for an early peace and then co-operative effort by the nations to secure a future peace, was greeted with prolonged applause.

Each sentence of President Wilson's speech, uttered as axiomatic, deliberately so that it sank into the minds of all those gathered in the big banquet hall, won prompt and prolonged applause. When he had finished many of those seated at the guest table pressed forward and shook hands vig-

**Notable Gathering of Great Men.**

Considering that it was the most notable gathering of great men of the United States that has been held by voluntary action in many years, and considering the importance that these men saw in the utterances of the occasion, officers of the league do not regret that the United States delegates assembled epoch-making in the history of this country if not of the entire world.

To preserve the peace of the world against "political ambition and selfish hostility," in service of "a common order, a common justice and a common good," the United States delegates join in any association of nations, said Mr. Wilson. Hope that the terms of

Provision for absolute freedom of the seas for all nations was emphasized in the suggestion he made for peace, and with the suggestion that the United States might effect this. The United States has been the keynote of all its foreign policy since 1793, and with Germany and Great Britain, this clause was given very marked approval by the auditors. Virtual guaranties of national integrity and political independence were also emphasized in these suggested proposals.

**Text of President's Address.**

In full, the President spoke as follows:—  
“When the invitation to be here to-night came to me I was glad to accept

league—that you will, I am sure, not expect of me—but because the desire of the whole world now turns eagerly

more and more eagerly, toward the hope of peace, and there is just reason why we should take our part in counsel upon this great theme. It is right that I, as spokesman of our government, should attempt to give expression to what I believe to be the thought and purpose of the people of the United States in this vital matter.

"This great war that broke so suddenly upon the world two years ago,

has affected us very profoundly, and we are not only at liberty, it is perhaps our duty, to speak very frankly of it and of the great interests of civilization which it affects.

### War's Far-Reaching Results.

"With its causes and its objects we are not concerned. The obscure fountains from which its stupendous flood has burst forth we are not interested to search for or explore. But so great a flood, spreading wide and everywhere, has the globe has the more ingulfed many a fair province of earth that lies very near to us. Our own rights and duties, our liberties, the franchises and the property of our people have been profoundly affected. We are not mere disconnected lookers-on. The flood has the more deeply do we become concerned that it should be brought to an end and the normal life and course again."

shall be as much concerned as the nations at war to see peace assume an aspect of permanence, give promise of

of Germany and Italy, and the anxiety of uncertainty shall be lifted, bring some assurance that peace and war shall always hereafter be reckoned part of the common interest of mankind. We are participants, whether we would or not, in the life of the world. The interests of all nations are our own also. We are partners with the rest. What affects mankind is inevitably our affair as well as the affair of the nations of Europe and of Asia.

**Secret Counsels Blamed.**

"One observation on the causes of the present war was, are at liberty to make



***His Speech as Presiding Officer at Republican National Convention to Voice Appeal for Co-operation of All Forces Favoring Americanism.***

A member of Congress who has seen the address prepared by the Ohio senator is authority for the statement that it offers the most cordial invitation for the return of those republicans who joined the third party movement in 1912, and pleads for a party declaration which shall meet the highest ex-

**Preparedness Cordially Indorsed.**  
Preparedness is given cordial indorsement along the lines of the re-

ON GREGIAN TERRITORY

LONDON, May 27. — There is pronounced activity now in the Balkans, artillery engagements along the entire

themselves for the first time on Greek territory, according to a Havas dispatch from Saloniki, under date of May 26.

Then, continuing its advance, the Bulgarian regiment occupied Forts Kanlivo and Dragotin, constructed by the Greeks immediately after the last war.

NEW YORK, May 27.—Smith Bracey, arrested here yesterday at the request of the federal authorities of Baltimore in connection with an alleged stock

Bracey declined to comment on his situation. The warrant, which accuses him of using the mails to communicate with the enemy, was issued by a court-martial for sedition in an examination a traced copy of an old fortifications map and representing it as original work.

A report from the school commandant



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To preserve the peace of the world against "political ambition and selfish hostility," in service of "a common order, a common justice and a common peace," the United States is ready to

with the suggestion that at the proper time the United States might offer them. This contention has been the keynote of all diplomatic discussions with Germany and Great Britain, and this clause was given very marked approval by the auditors. Virtual guar-

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rights as a nation, the liberties, the privileges and the property of our people have been profoundly affected. We are not mere disconnected lookers-on. The longer the war lasts the more deeply do we become concerned that it should be brought to an end and the

certainty shall be lifted, bring some assurance that peace and war shall always hereafter be reckoned part of the common interest of mankind. We are participants, whether we would or not, in the life of the world. The interests of all nations are our own also. We are

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